

Music Writing Ideas

Here are some generic writing assignments that may be able to be modified to fit your curriculum. Remember to always think of your curriculum first and make the assignment meaningful. Remember also that these writing assignments can/should be of various lengths. Some could be a couple of sentences, some paragraph length and even some full papers. Think about having students write a(n):

1. Reaction to a piece/style/concept/video studied
2. Summary of a piece/style/concept/video studied
3. Comparison/contrast between two styles/pieces
4. Concert/practice session critique
5. Answer to an essay question on a test
6. Definition to key term or set of terms
7. Narrative describing a story from their lives in which music played an important or memorable part
8. Documented paragraph/paper
9. Evaluation of their progress in learning or performing material
10. Letter to the editor regarding a current event related to music
11. News article about an event in music history or in current events
12. Children's book teaching a concept or illustrating importance of music education/performance
13. Cause-Effect paragraph/paper about a musical concept (ex: what styles evoke what feeling?)
14. Movie review comparing real life to re-creation
15. Poem about a concept in music
16. Character profile of a famous or little known performer or composer
17. Discussion of a career within this content area
18. Description of a piece of music (sounds like a ballerina twirling/a huge hobo staggering along the river)
19. Directions for having a successful concert/practice session
20. Questions that they have about a lesson or critical concept
21. Discussion of ways to use a musical concept in the "real world"